

Jeff S. Jordan
Supervisory Attorney
Complaints Examination & Legal Administration
Re: MUR 5700 & 5707

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2006 MAR 15 A 9:31

Dear Mr. Jordan,

In this letter I will respond to the three major claims made by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Richards. Both of whom are working together in this matter.

First, the Veterans Public Awareness Foundation was originally set up in 2004 to bring attention to the plight of Veterans, both old and present. The National Heritage Foundation was paid money to set it up. They were to provide all the legal documents, etc. The income to support this foundation was to come from a communications company, Excel/Vartec. We would sign up customers for their telephone service and 10% of the bill would be donated to the Veterans Public Awareness Foundation.

At the end of the first year we finally got a financial report from the Heritage Foundation telling us there was \$0.00 in our account, even though we had at least 100 customers for their product including myself. A few of us got together in August 2005, to discuss having a golf tournament to raise funds. We had a few meetings in the Tampa Bay area and when we had the workings of a plan, I contacted Paul Hederstrom, who is my contact with the National Heritage Foundation.

We discussed what we were going to do and he was able to give further insight as he has done this type of event before. The plan was to have the event in Saint Petersburg at one of the more prestigious golf & country clubs, The Bayou, in Pinellas Park, Florida, on April 22, 2006.

Mr. Hederstrom was kept up to date as we were acquiring sponsors for the event. Mr. Hederstrom reported our efforts further up the chain to a Dock Hawk in Church Falls, Virginia who is the legal counsel for Heritage and was the person who was responsible for all our paperwork being in order.

As per the original rules of the Veterans Foundation, I would not have any access to the funds. If we needed something to be paid, the request would be sent to Heritage HQ in Church Falls, and if they approved, a check would be sent directly to the vendor or supplier. I was not allowed to apply for any tax exemption status, open up any bank account or purchase anything without prior permission, unless I wanted to buy it out of my own pocket.

It would appear that Mr. Richards has too much time on his hands as he scoured the web and found out that the Heritage Foundation after taking funds to set up the foundation, never bothered to have it registered in Florida or the County I live in, Pinellas. Mr. Richards decided to file a formal complaint with the Dept. of Justice, Florida of fraud. After a few conversations with the investigators at Florida Dept. of Justice, (Mr. Larry Krick, et. al.) they came to the realization that I was not in any way in control of the paperwork, nor did I have any power to do anything about it. I put Mr. Krick and his office in touch with both Mr. Hederstrom and Mr. Hawk, where it was discovered that the paperwork was 'not' filed correctly but they would fix it ASAP.

During the weeks that passed, Mr. Richards and Mr. Thompson started a smear campaign on me personally, which involved them calling everyone they thought I knew and spread over the internet on every conceivable blog that I had criminal charges pending, including many emails a week later stating that I had been arrested on January 23rd.

The only funds we ever received for the foundation was from the First Family Church, for \$418.00. I sent it up to Church Falls... It bounced! The Senior Pastor, Dr. Michael Lowery, said he would replace it... Never happened. By mid-January, I made the decision to just close down the

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Veterans Public Awareness Foundation, and I sent a letter to both Mr. Hederstrom and Mr. Hauk advising them to remove my name from any item that had me listed with the National Heritage Foundation. There is no more Veterans Public Awareness Foundation, there is no golf tournament and I was told that in the first quarter report of the National Heritage Foundation, it will reflect that I am no longer affiliated with them. In a further conversation with Mr. Krick, he suggested that if I wanted to do something like this again, just set up a non-profit right here in Florida. This suggestion was taken to heart.

Second, the Veterans Post Newspaper was created to help Veterans with information from the Veterans Administration and to have many Veterans Organizations in a community knowing what each other are doing. In one of the editorials in 1999, realizing that everything Veterans do, say, get medications for, get medical care for, their VA compensation pay and more, always have something to do with politics. So it was suggested that they start their own Veterans Party. Four years later, someone acted upon it.

The Veterans Post Newspaper has always supported Veterans and it seemed like a natural step for them to support the Veterans Party of America when it came to be in 2003. A similar setup is between the New York Times and Democrats, is that illegal? In September 2003, the Veterans Party of America had zero funds. The Veterans Post Newspaper put up funds to purchase bumper stickers, yard signs and t-shirts, in order to get the word out. The bumper stickers were sold in packs of 100 for \$25, which including priority first class mail shipping anywhere in the United States. As you may notice, there was not much room for profit, because the purpose was to get the word out, not get rich.

Of the few dollars made in profit, once the Veterans Post Newspaper was paid back the original amount paid (with no interest) it would turn over the remaining stock to the Party. The Veterans Post Newspaper did receive checks addressed to the Party which was turned over to the treasurer and secretary to open a bank account, which was done in the Spring of 2004.

Jumping ahead to November 2005 and the Veterans Party of America's conference in Tampa, Florida, we have Mr. Thompson saying he purchased Party Promotional Materials, (bumper stickers, t-shirts, yard signs and a coffee mug) which were all purchased by the Veterans Post Newspaper to begin with. He also bought a meal in the hotel and the Party got none of that either. I wonder if both of them would get irritated by the fact that Jan Scruggs, founder of the Vietnam Memorial Fund, gets paid a sizeable amount even today, just for having the Original thought?

Mr. Thompson further states that we collected funds specifically for the conference at the Holiday Inn in Tampa, so we could purchase some training materials to be passed out. The idea for a conference was back in May 2005, when we made a contract with the Holiday Inn of Tampa, for a block of 40 rooms at a set price and meeting rooms for our activities. The contract included that a deposit would be required to hold said rooms, \$500 now and an additional \$500 the first of October 2005. Since we did not have that kind of money in the Party treasury, the Veterans Post Newspaper took care of the financial arrangements.

As Mr. Thompson stated, people were to send their \$35 in advance for the conference, checks to be made out to the Veterans Party of America. On the day of the conference, we had a total of 6 people pay in advance. We only took a total of 11 rooms, as everyone decided it would be cheaper to stay elsewhere or not show up (58 said they would be coming). And in one swift moment, the Veterans Post Newspaper's deposit was gone. In addition to this, the Holiday Inn wanted \$200 a day for only one meeting room as we did not meet the contract agreement. Mr. Thompson, along with 12 others made their \$25 conference payment when they arrived. The only materials purchased out of pocket for Party ID badges, agenda's, flyers and signs, was from the National Vice Chair Glenda Kelley and myself.

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All of this was explained to everyone at our first meeting, with Mr. Thompson present and aware of everything that had transpired. All conference checks were to be made out to the Veterans Party of America, if you were buying bumper stickers, signs, etc. please make checks out to the Veterans Post Newspaper. And yet, a few bought promotional items and made the check out to the Veterans Party of America, and was placed in the Party account.

Third, the Veterans Party of America received its largest check received from the State of Florida, it was a 30% return on the filing fee for our candidate running for the US Senate in 2004. After depositing the check, the Party wrote one back to the candidate, Dennis Bradley, as we believed that it was his money to begin with and he could use it for his campaign. Mr. Richards believes this is fraud. During the year 2005, no checks were written or funds spent (except for what the bank takes) from the Veterans Party of America account. Funds were deposited but never taken out. All funds needed to function daily were provided by myself or the Veterans Post Newspaper.

Mr. Richards is correct that the founders of the party were not elected (Duh!) (not actually a legal term) and that the domain name and website were also paid for by the Veterans Post Newspaper back in 2003 before the Party was even approved to be a political entity. At the conference in November of 2005, (Mr. Richards was a no show) it was put out on the floor at a general meeting for nominations for National Officers. NOT ONE Name was suggested.

In response to both Mr. Richards and Mr. Thompson's allegations that the Veterans Party of America owes me \$30,000.00... At the same meeting when asking for nominations for NEC officers, it was explained to all that the Chair position comes with a price. I had figured out that the time I had put in, places I traveled to, items purchased, the price of being Chair for two years had cost about \$30,000.00. I have not taken or accepted any reimbursement for any of it from the Party.

The best part of it all, is that during the year 2005, these two gentlemen were accusing me of using the Florida Veterans Party of America treasury as my own personal bank. Mr. Richards refused to accept my explanation because Mr. Thompson said I was lying. Truth is, Mr. Thompson was the Florida State Treasurer (something he forgot to mention to Mr. Richards) and a Florida State account was never opened. Nor would I have any access to it as I was not a member of the Florida State or any County Committee.

As far as the witness's compiled by Mr. Richards (MUR 5700) and the sworn statement of Mr. Thompson about State Chairs resigning (MUR 5707), some of them are 'not' Party members. The state chairs of Oregon and Colorado, were both appointed interim chairs in order to do the paperwork to get the Party registered in their respective states.

In the year and a half they have been in the interim chair position, they have never sent a report to us or their state, including refusing to divulge the names, addresses or phone numbers of the Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of their states. Mr. Decker of Oregon also sends out email and letters saying the National Executive Committee of the Veterans Party of America is illegally gathering this information we have no right to know who these people are. To this Mr. Thompson agrees, and has chosen not to show me his voter registration card to attest what Party he is registered under. Rather than give this information, they felt forced to resign.

Since none of these people are even registered in the Veterans Party of America, I do not believe it is 'illegal' for me to not turn the control of this Party to them or even allow them to vote within our ranks. I am sure prior to me being shackled and taken to a federal prison, you will take a few moments to find out:

1. That they are not members.
2. They have not even started to register the party in their states.
3. They refuse to make any reports.
4. I have no idea what \$3,500 was spent in Colorado. (Mr. Richards claim)

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5. The advisory was not accomplished because states would not report. (Mr. Thompson's claim)
6. I have no control over Mr. Decker and his unlawfully formed state. (Mr. Richards claim)
7. That Ms. White 'is' allowed to own a business. (Mr. Richards claim)
8. That the Veterans Post Newspaper is allowed to sell what it owns.

When Mr. Thompson asked me to step down as chair, during the investigation, the National Vice Chair refused to take over and would resign if I left. Mr. Thompson refused to step up, (he would have had to show his voter registration card) and both Mr. Thompson and Mr. Richards said it would be okay to have 'NO' national committee while the investigation continues. (Odd thing to do during an election year) They both admitted that it would be cleared up by late summer. It was decided by the remainder of the state chairs and the national committee, that things would remain in place until Mr. Richards (Democrat) and Mr. Thompson (Unknown) would provide something more substantial then just making claims.

As of this date, Mr. Richards and in some cases Mr. Thompson, has filed claims with the Florida Dept. of Justice who told me they must follow up on every claim. The Supervisor of Elections, who stated they did not have jurisdiction, the Florida Elections Commission; "I have reviewed your complaint and it appears to be legally insufficient."

In addition to all of this, he has made public every claim to every agency, (yours included) senator, congressman, governor and state reps with copies of his complaints on his own website and sends to a multitude of media outlets to include the Washington Post, New York Times, USA Today, ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, Time Warner, etc. While I am told by the Florida Elections Commission, "...that the person against whom the complaint is filed may not disclose this letter or the complaint...". Mr. Richards and Mr. Thompson continue to make everything public, including my former marriage and my children. <http://vfvs.com/VeteransCorner.html>

This next link is to one of his over 50 links concerning all of the above:
<http://vfvs.com/pdf/ConsolidatedFinalSwornComplaintsentoGovernmentAgencies.doc>

I have no documents to send you concerning the Florida Veterans Party of America treasury, because a bank account was never opened to my knowledge, but you can check with former Florida State Treasurer, Robert Thompson.

I have no copies of checks written in 2005 by the National Party, as none were written. The account is listed with the FEC, MacDill Federal Credit Union.

No checks from the Veterans Party of America that were written in the year 2004, paid for any promotional material, including but not limited to; Bumper Stickers, Yard Signs, T-shirts, Golf Shirts, Coffee Mugs, Business Cards, Banners, Web Domain Names, Web Hosting, Web Designing, Web Page Set-Ups and Web Maintenance.

At no time has anyone been charged for the use of the Logo, Website, Hosting, Chat Rooms, Photos, E-mail Boxes or obtaining information.

We do not have a counsel to designate and these two people have created enough discord to bring the Party almost to a halt. There is no money missing, there is no cover-up to show how much I have put of my time, energy, personal mental state and funds. There are only democrats, republicans and two very lonely men trying to stop the Veterans Party of America.

Respectfully Submitted,



Phillip Meskin

Company Clerk - National Chair

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